

Ms. Jane Henney; FDA Commissioner
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane; Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

August 30, 2000

0922 '00 SEP 13 P2:36

Dear Ms. Henney:

RE: Docket #00P-1211/CPI (G.E. Foods)

I am writing you to express my opinion about the above issue. My interest is due partly to my own health, but is also due to my care for the environment and the long-term effects on agriculture and humanity.

Of **primary concern** is the need to LABEL genetically engineered foods, so that consumers have information before purchasing. We are provided information on everything else at the supermarket. If the companies producing these seeds and growing these crops are so proud of their products, then it is mysterious that they are trying to conceal this information from the buying public. As I expressed in the above paragraph, due to health issues I try to eat only organically grown (preferably locally grown) foods. These new g.e. crops can cross-pollinate with supposedly "organically grown" produce, and contaminate them. I pay extra for the label "organically grown," and this makes a mockery of that attempt at better nutrition for me, and for all organic farmers who are doing things in small, labor intensive ways.

Why does the Food and Drug Administration ASSUME these foods are safe, without any pre-market testing?? Are you taking the manufacturer's word for it? Their interest is in MAKING MONEY; your mission is supposed to be to PROTECT THE PUBLIC. It is disappointing that I feel a need to advocate for that position with the FDA.

Without any long-term studies, we may be opening up a can of worms. I no longer have confidence in the general food supply, and worry about long-term health consequences for myself and others. I have a degenerative liver disease, and am doing all I can to prolong my life. Without the information to decide which foods will best nourish my ailing body, I am frustrated and anxious about the future.

Please ANNOUNCE A ONE YEAR (AT LEAST) MORATORIUM on these genetically engineered foods, until INDEPENDENT STUDIES undertaken by you can prove their safety (or lack thereof), and uncover any long-term effects that may not now be apparent.

With other countries taking the lead in protests and studies, you must surely see the wisdom of taking this action AT ONCE.

Sincerely,

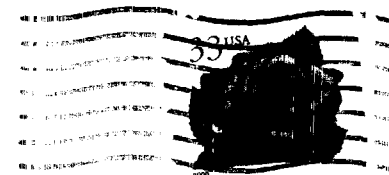


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